



Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration
Office of Airworthiness
Washington, D.C.

TSO-C66b

Date 8/3/81

Technical Standard Order

Subject: TSO-C66b, DISTANCE MEASURING EQUIPMENT (DME) OPERATING WITHIN THE
RADIO FREQUENCY RANGE OF 960-1215 MEGAHERTZ

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(a) Applicability.

(1) Minimum Performance Standard. This Technical Standard Order (TSO) prescribes the minimum performance standard that distance measuring equipment (DME) must meet in order to be identified with the applicable TSO marking. New models of distance measuring equipment that are to be so identified and that are manufactured on or after the date of this TSO must meet the standards set forth in Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics (RTCA) Document No. DO-151A, "Minimum Performance Standards - Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) Operating Within the Radio Frequency Range of 960-1215 Megahertz," dated November, 1978.

(2) Additions.

i. In addition to paragraph 1.0, General Standards, of RTCA Document No. DO-151A, all materials used must be self-extinguishing when tested in accordance with applicable requirements of §§ 25.853 and 25.1359(d) and Part 25, Appendix F, of the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) effective May 1, 1972. The material may be of a size and be mounted for the test in accordance with paragraph (b) of Appendix F or may be of a size and mounted as used in the aircraft. Small parts (such as knobs, fasteners, seals, grommets, and small electrical parts) that would not contribute significantly to the propagation of a fire need not be tested.

ii. When the equipment is subjected to the power input test "Normal Operating Conditions" of paragraph 3.13.1 of RTCA Document No. DO-151A it shall (in addition to meeting requirements of paragraphs 2.1, 2.7, and 2.9 of RTCA DO-151A) meet the requirements of paragraphs 2.4 and 2.6 where applicable.

iii. Equipment manufactured in accordance with this TSO shall be compatible with 50 KHZ VOR equipment.

DISTRIBUTION: ZVS-326;A-X(FS)-3; A-X(CD)-3;A-W(WS)-3;A-FFS-1,2,3,7,8(LTD)

iv. If the equipment design is implemented using microcomputer techniques, the software must follow future published and approved verification, validation, documentation, and maintenance criteria outlined in RTCA documents and FAA Advisory Circulars on the subject.

(3) Environmental Standard. RTCA Document No. DO-151A incorporates as a reference RTCA Document No. DO-160, "Environmental Conditions and Test Procedures for Airborne Equipment," dated February 28, 1975 (see exception).

(4) Exception. The conditions and procedures prescribed in RTCA Document No. DO-160A, "Environmental Conditions and Test Procedures for Airborne Equipment," dated January 1980, are to be utilized after December 31, 1981, and it is acceptable to utilize DO-160A prior to December 31, 1981, but it is not acceptable to intermix conditions and procedures of DO-160 and DO-160A.

(b) Marking. In addition to the marking specified in FAR § 21.607(d), the following information shall be legibly and permanently marked on the equipment:

(1) The environmental categories in which it has been qualified to operate in accordance with the applicable RTCA document, however, this marking is not necessary when the alternative is used as describe in RTCA DO-160A companion document.

(2) Each separate component of equipment (antenna, receiver, indicator controller, etc.) with at least the name of the manufacturer and the TSO.

(3) With regard to FAR § 21.607(d)(2), the part number is to include hardware and software identification or a separate part number may be utilized for hardware and software. Either approach is to include a means for showing modification status.

(c) Data Requirements. In accordance with FAR § 21.605, the manufacturer must furnish the Chief, Engineering and Manufacturing Branch, Flight Standards Division (or in the Western-Pacific Region, the Chief, Aircraft Certification Division), Federal Aviation Administration, in the region in which the manufacturer is located, one copy each of the following technical data:

- (1) Operating instructions.
- (2) Equipment limitations.
- (3) Installation procedures and limitations.
- (4) Schematic drawings.

(5) Wiring diagrams.

(6) Specifications.

(7) Equipment calibration and maintenance procedures, which may be submitted within 6 months after production begins or within 6 months after TSO authorization is granted, whichever occurs first.

(8) List of the major components (by part number) that make up the equipment system complying with the standards prescribed in this TSO.

(9) A drawing list, enumerating all the drawings and processes that are necessary to define the article design.

(10) Manufacturer's TSO qualification test report.

(d) Data to be furnished with manufactured units. One copy of the data information specified in paragraphs (c)(1), (c)(2), (c)(3), and furnished upon request (c)(4), (c)(5), (c)(6), (c)(7), and (c)(8) of this TSO must go to each person receiving for use one or more articles manufactured under this TSO.

(e) Previously Approved Equipment. Distance measuring equipment approved prior to the date of this TSO may continue to be manufactured under the provisions of the original approval.

(f) Availability of Reference Documents.

(1) A copy of RTCA Document No. DO-160 is available for inspection at any FAA regional office in the Engineering and Manufacturing Branch of the Flight Standards Division (or in the Western-Pacific Region, the Chief, Aircraft Certification Division).

(2) Copies of RTCA Document Nos. DO-151A and DO-160A may be purchased from the Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics Secretariat, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

(3) The RTCA Document, companion to DO-160A, describing an alternative to environmental marking procedure may be obtained from RTCA when approved by RTCA Executive Committee and adopted by FAA.

(4) The RTCA document describing software criteria may be obtained from RTCA when approved by RTCA Executive Committee.



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